

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IOE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 CU-02

NEA-06 L-01 PRS-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 SSO-00 EUR-08 AF-04

SCCT-01 EA-06 ARA-06 INRE-00 /065 W

----- 119108

O 041754Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8150

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 08496

LIMDIS

NESCO

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO, XF

SUBJECT: PLO INITIATIVE TO ACQUIRE PERMANENT OBSERVER
DELEGATE STATUS AT 97 EXBD

REF: PARIS 8411

1. SUBSEQUENT TO REFTEL PERMDEL FURTHER INFORMED BY EXECUTIVE BOARD SECRETARY (STEPANEK, CZECH) THAT INITIATIVE TO SEEK PERMANENT OBSERVER DELEGATION STATUS FROM EXBD BY ARABS WILL TAKE FORM OF SEEKING SUCH STATUS FOR AFRICAN AND OTHER LIBERATION MOVEMENTS, I.E. NOT TO PRESENT DEMAND FOR PLO ALONE BUT IN VOTE-ATTRACTING COMPANY OF ALM'S.

2. STEPANEK FURTHER ADVISED THAT SOVIETS AND OTHERS OF "SOCIALIST" BLOC REFUSED TO CO-SPONSOR, BUT WOULD ULTIMATELY VOTE FOR, PLO INITIATIVE WHICH APPARENTLY BEING UNDERTAKEN BY TUNISIANS AND POSSIBLY SYRIANS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF EXBD. RUMANIAN PERMREP TOOK INITIATIVE TO CALL ON PERMREP JONES IN LATE MORNING AND CONFIRMED
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THAT WHILE SOVIET-EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD NOT

CO-SPONSOR THEY WOULD VOTE IN SUPPORT OF (A) PLO QUESTION BEING INSCRIBED AS NEW AGENDA ITEM AND (B) AN ULTIMATE VOTE ON DEMAND ITSELF. BOTH STEPANEK AND RUMANIAN PERMREP INDICATED THAT BLOC COUNTRIES DISTRESSED BY IMPACT SUCH AN INITIATIVE WOULD HAVE ON WESTERN AND ESPECIALLY US OPINION, BUT INDICATED THAT POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS WOULD REQUIRE THESE COUNTRIES TO VOTE IN FAVOR.

3. TUNISIAN PERMREP TOOK INITIATIVE TO DISCUSS ISSUE WITH DELOFF AND ADVISED THAT THERE WOULD BE ASSERTEDLY "IMPORTANT NUANCE" THAT PLO SOUGHT PERMANENT OBSERVER DELEGATION RIGHTS RATHER THAN RECOGNITION AS PERMANENT DELEGATION OF A MEMBER STATE. TUNISIAN SAID THAT PLO REPRESENTATIVE IN DISCUSSING INITIATIVE HAD IMPLIED THAT US OFFICIAL POSITION TOWARDS PLO HAD "IMPROVED", ALTHOUGH ONLY BASIS CITED FOR THIS ASSERTION WAS RECENT VISIT OF SENATOR MCGOVERN WITH ARAFAT.

4. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY TO PERMREP OF RUMANIAN AMBASSADOR AND BY TUNISIAN TO DELOFF, PERMDEL SAID THAT AS THIS A BRAND NEW DEVELOPMENT WE HAD NOT RECEIVED AS YET ANY OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS, BUT THAT ACCORDANCE OF SUCH STATUS TO PLO WOULD HAVE VERY SERIOUS IMPACT IN WAKE OF DAMAGE ALREADY DONE BY 18 GENERAL CONFERENCE DECISIONS RE ISRAEL.

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 IOE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SP-02 CU-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8151

S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 08496

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5. PERMDEL ALSO TOLD BY STEPANEK THAT BOISSIER-PALUN, DAHOMIAN AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO WHO WAGED VALIANT IF LOSING FIGHT AT 18TH GC AGAINST ISRAELI SANCTIONS AND WHO RECENTLY ELECTED AS PRESIDENT OF UNESCO AFRICAN GROUP, BELIEVES AFRICAN STATES ON EXBD WOULD PROBABLY VOTE IN FAVOR OF PLO APPLICATION DESPITE SEEMING LEGAL ARGUMENTS AGAINST.

6. IN LATE AFTERNOON FRG PERMREP TOLD PERMREP JONES THAT HE WILL ADVISE FRG TO RAISE THIS ISSUE IN ORDER REACH COMMON POSITION, AT UPCOMING "NINE" MEETING IN DUBLIN.

7. PERMDEL WOULD UNDERLINE THAT THIS QUESTION NOT REPEAT NOT GOING TO BE DECIDED ON BASIS OF LEGAL MERITS. DDG FOBES, WHO HAS ACTION ON PLO QUESTION KEEP PERMDEL ADVISED ON LEGAL AUTHORITY OF UNESCO EXBD TO GRANT SUCH STATUS, BUT IT WOULD SEEM LIKELY THAT POLITICAL WEIGHT BEHIND PLO PUSH WILL PREVAIL OVER ANY STRICTLY "LEGAL" CONSIDERATIONS.

8. DG M'BOW RETURNS TONIGHT FROM ACC MEETING IN ROME, AND WILL BE ADVISED BY FOBES OF PLO MOVE, BUT DEPARTS
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SUNDAY A.M. FOR CANADA ON OFFICIAL VISIT TO APRIL 10.

9. PERMDEL WOULD STRONGLY URGE DEPT.'S CONSIDERATION THAT WESTERN EUROPEAN NATIONS BE CONSULTED IN ORDER THAT MOST UNITED FRONT POSSIBLE BE PRESENTED AT EXBD SESSION ON THIS SEEMINGLY INEVITABLE ISSUE. PERMDEL WILL ADVISE RESULTS OF FURTHER SOUNDINGS TO BE TAKEN WITH OTHER PERMDELS AND SECRETARIAT.

10. COMMENT: SUBJECT TO FURTHER INFORMATION PERMDEL ASSESSMENT IS THAT PLO EFFORT WILL BE SUCCESSFUL; PARTICULARLY IF COUCHED IN LANGUAGE THAT WOULD ACCORD SIMILAR RESIDENT OBSERVER DELEGATION RIGHTS TO ALM'S.
RUSH

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